

Maine County Commissioners Association
11 Columbia Street
Augusta , Maine 04330

MCCA ACTION ITEM
Action Item #00-000

Title: MSA Proposal on County Jail Fund Balance

MCCA STAFF REPORT

submitted by : Timothy Leet

BACKGROUND

At a recent two-day retreat, the Maine Sheriffs Association developed a draft policy regarding county jail fund balance.

The proposed draft policy is:

"At the conclusion of the fiscal year, any county with fund balance not created by Board of Corrections efficiencies shall retain 25% of their fund balance. These funds shall be expended solely on correctional needs, or in the alternative, said funds can be accrued until an individual county's fund balance reaches 2% of the current budget amount.

Additionally, the remaining 75% of fund balance, from all eligible counties, shall be held and managed by trustees comprised of four members as determined by the Maine County Commissioners Association and three members appointed by the Maine Sheriffs Association. This fund shall be identified as the County Corrections Trust Account. These trust funds can only be spent for purposes within county within county corrections.

Trustees will allocate secured funds on a need basis for member counties. The trust will act to incentivize counties to adopt budget practices that will promote recurring fiscal efficiencies.

The County Corrections Trust Account will be exclusively and solely held, retained and managed by the Trustees or their designees."

It was reported that at the retreat the following county sheriffs voted in favor of this proposal:

- Androscoggin, Aroostook, Cumberland, Hancock, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Oxford, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Sagadahoc, Waldo, Washington, York;
- (Note: Franklin and Somerset county sheriffs were absent from the vote);